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MOSQUITOES
THE CAUSEMalarial Parasite Now
Known.

DR. PFLUGER'S STATEMENT

Distinguished Scientist Here Tells of
the Savant Koch's Re-
searches.

MALARIAL FEVER can be prevented! The cause of the dreaded disease of the tropics and the remedy, therefore have been discovered!

It has been proven beyond a doubt that malaria does not exist in the soil but is carried from one person to another by a certain species of mosquito termed the Anopheles.

So says the celebrated Dr. Koch of Berlin to the world, through Dr. Alexander Pfleger, his friend and companion in the recent investigations which the famous bacteriologist has been making for several months of this year at Stephansort, German New Guinea.

For the first time the real facts of the great discovery are given to the world in the Advertiser.

Dr. Alexander Pfleger is a German savant, scientist, authority on geological research, lecturer on geology and physics at Bonn University, Germany, and is now in Honolulu, having just come from New Guinea by way of Australia. He bade Prof. Koch goodbye as the latter was leaving for the Carolines where he will continue his investigations relative to the cause of malaria.

The distinguished lecturer is staying at the Hawaiian Hotel, and will remain in Hawaii several weeks to make researches at the volcanoes of Kilauea and Haleakala. He will then continue on his journey through the United States and thence to Bonn where he will make known in person the important discovery which Prof. Koch has just proven genuine by practical and theoretical examinations, attended by most careful microscopical and analytical studies of malaria inoculated blood taken from the natives of the New Guinea settlements.

DR. PFLUGER'S STATEMENT.

Dr. Pfleger gives the above statements as positive facts and in the following interview gives the details of one of the most interesting scientific investigations known in this age and of a century full of wonderful researches.

Prof. Koch was sent by the German Government on his present journey which has lasted about three years to investigate malarial fever in all parts of the world, and especially at Stephansort, where it is stated by Prof. Koch that malaria exists in the worst form. He first travelled through the malarial districts of Italy, South Africa, the Dutch Indies and latterly in New Guinea where his most important researches were made.

WHAT MALARIA IS.

Dr. Pfleger states that Dr. Koch's investigations have proven the following facts: That malaria is caused by a little parasite, not a bacillus, living in the blood of a person. This parasite is carried from man to man by mosquitoes, but only of a certain species called the Anopheles.

These mosquitoes bite generally in the night time so that the danger of contracting malaria is only during the night hours, and especially when one is sleeping. Dr. Koch lays great stress on the advisability of providing only the best mosquito nets for beds which will be proof against the entrance of even the smallest of the species above named.

HOW MALARIA ENTERS THE SYSTEM.

The cause of a malarial system, says Dr. Pfleger, lies in the fact that the parasite of malaria lives in the body of a mosquito exactly as it does in a man. It has also been found in the body of the flying fox. By this mosquito, laden with the parasite, it is carried from one person affected by malaria and inoculated into another who is still in a physical state of healthfulness.

"Thus," says Dr. Pfleger, "when a man is bitten who has malaria in his blood, the parasite is carried by the mosquito to another human being and deposited in the other's blood. In eleven or twelve days the parasite breeds and having done so dies a natural death. This parasite makes the person sickly and his ailment is described as malarial fever.

DOES NOT COME FROM SOIL.

"Very often it is said malarial fever comes out of the earth from places where water is stagnant. That is an opinion held by some who have studied the causes of malaria. Stagnant water and sodden earth, however, have only this much to do with malaria. There the mosquito breeds its larvae, which in turn, of course become mosquitoes. Larvae of mosquitoes can only live where there is water. Where there is not an abundance of water there are no mosquitoes to carry the parasite of malaria. It is proven that malaria is not contagious or carried about except where there is water which can breed mosquitoes and the species especially known as the Anopheles.

DR. KOCH'S REMEDY.

"For years quinine has been prescribed as a preventive for malaria but it is not given in a proper manner and the best way to use it has not been known until Dr. Koch finished his investigations. Formerly too much or too little was given. Dr. Koch has proven the efficacy of his method of using quinine, first by practical experiments, and second by theoretical reasonings.

"In any country affected by malaria Dr. Koch says that quinine must be taken every eighth and ninth day—one gram for a dose. This quinine must be taken in solution. Because it does not dissolve in water, drops of hydrochloric acid must be put in the water and then the quinine dissolves at once. Taken in this form the medicine is bitter and unsatisfactory to the patient's taste, but is radically effective, whereas the sugar-coated quinine tablets often do not do their work but are thrown out of the system before they

have entirely dissolved by the action of the stomach.

"This is absolutely necessary," Prof. Koch says, for the following reasons: In the morning it should be taken in the dissolved form for the stomach, and from that time the quinine to be disseminated through the system. Second, if taken in the evening, the stomach is tired and does not respond as quickly as it should and the medicine is therefore not efficacious.

THE SCIENTIST'S THEORY.

"Now as to the reason for applying this remedy at the intervals which I have stated," Prof. Koch has by theoretical experiments proven that the parasite deposited in the system by a mosquito will breed in eleven or twelve days and scatter through the blood. It is necessary before it breeds to deprive the parasite of the ability to breed. Thus, after endless experiments, Prof. Koch determined upon the plan of giving the quinine every eight or nine days. The parasite is not killed by the action of the quinine but is made comatose and dies a natural death before it has time to breed. The remedy is only to prevent them breeding, not to eradicate malaria entirely. This will be effected in the course of time. In order to kill the parasite instantly with quinine, the dose would have to be given in such large quantities that the patient would be injured. Too much will have a very bad effect. Prof. Koch states that the two grams divided on the eighth and ninth day is all that is needed.

BLACK-WATER FEVER.

"Prof. Koch has stated to me that the so-called 'black-water' fever, which is perhaps one of the most dangerous in tropical climes, is perhaps nothing more or less than death by quinine—too much quinine.

"I do not say this as an absolute fact, for Prof. Koch has not proven this. But he believes that many in the tropics take quinine constantly and the system becomes filled with it. It is administered irregularly and really acts as a poison. "Some people cannot endure quinine, even in very small quantities. Such people should never live in places where malaria exists. Perhaps at some future day another remedy which can take the place of quinine will be discovered and then it will be safe for these people to take up their residence in such places.

KOCH'S PRACTICAL EXPERIMENTS.

"Dr. Koch has made practical experiments on a large scale. Stephansort, where he made his greatest experiments, is known, as I have stated, as the most unhealthy place, as far as malaria is concerned, in the world. In this place is a station of the German New Guinea Company. There are about fifteen hundred white men, together with a number of Javanese, Chinese and native workmen. A great number of these are sick of malaria and it has been difficult for the company to keep them at work.

In this place till now no European stayed longer than three or four weeks without getting malaria. Prof. Koch made the following experiments:

"Everybody in this place had to come into the presence of the scientist every eighth and ninth day and take a dose of his solution of quinine. These experiments continued for six months.

"At the end of this period the malaria had fully disappeared. Only a few old, very difficult cases remained un cured. There were no new attacks. Stephansort must be considered free from malaria to-day.

"It is also an interesting fact that Prof. Koch and his assistants living at the method prescribed by the scientist, have been the first Europeans to escape the malaria there.

NATIVES FREE FROM MALARIA?

"It is generally the opinion that natives of countries where malaria exists are free from its effects. This is true with the following modifications: It is a fact, as Prof. Koch has proven, that every person is immune from the attacks of the malaria parasite after six or seven years. Therefore the old European inhabitants, who escaped death in the first year of their residence in these places, are proof against it. The proof for this is that all the children in these places, and Prof. Koch has examined about 7,000 of them in New Guinea, in the first five years of their lives are affected with malaria. Generally this is shown in all the children by a swelling of the spleen. This causes the abdomen to protrude in a more or less enlarged form. Under the treatment of Prof. Koch the spleen decreased in size and the children became finally immune against the malaria. Microscopical research always shows the existence of parasites in the blood.

AN INTERESTING TOUR.

"These investigations among the children were of the most interesting character and I watched the scientist for hours while he went among the natives. He would go to a village and by making little presents to the parents would induce them to send their children to him. With a common steel pen point he would prick a small hole in the forefinger of the child. An assistant would squeeze the member until a drop of blood was caught on a smear glass. This was then prepared for microscopical examination.

"Yes, it was in a little village thousands of miles away from the big world, in the wilds of a land full of untamed people, sitting in the midst of a group of children that Dr. Koch made his important researches.

"In this tour also he found that many places which are situated in the mountains and far from the sea had malaria, too. At first blush this would seem a paradox, because there were no mosquitoes, but nevertheless he found proofs of its existence and the cause of it were forthcoming under his investigations. The natives would go down to the seashore to take salt water for cooking their food or for other business and there would be inoculated with the malaria parasite.

IS IT EPIDEMIC?

"By this is shown that malarial fever is a kind of epidemic, although it grows slowly to be so termed. It can be carried from one place to another, if"—and the Doctor laid great stress on the if—"the Anopheles mosquito exists to carry the parasite.

"Another proof which Dr. Koch advances for malaria being caused by the carrying of parasites from one person to another is in the bringing together of a great number of workmen to be employed on such work as making harbors, digging great foundations in swampy or damp places, digging great trenches for sewer or water systems. Men so brought together, are often afflicted with all manner of ailments and some of them have malaria in their systems.

"Dr. Koch is positive that the malaria does not arise from the soil or noxious gases, as has been believed. On the contrary, he believes, and states his proof, that in such places mosquitoes are bred. These attack the men, moving from one to another under very favorable conditions. The presence of the Anopheles brings about the malaria by carrying the malaria parasite from one to another, and thus the prevalence of malaria is laid to the upturning of the soil. The only absolute safe way to determine the existence of malaria is the microscopical observation of the blood taken from a sick person. And the only way to prevent the spreading of the same is the administering of quinine in the described manner, and the use of good mosquito nets.

THEY TEMPTED MALARIA.

Dr. Pfleger, in his interesting account of the life led by Dr. Koch, himself and the assistants, tells of the manner in which they invited malaria to enter their systems after they had begun the treatment which Dr. Pfleger asserts is absolutely successful. All manner of exposures were tried but without the least effect upon them. In such a country as New Guinea, where no European has been immune, this was considered a signal victory for Dr. Koch's experiments.

Another instance which Dr. Pfleger cites

DR. WOOD RESIGNS FROM
THE BOARD OF HEALTH

DR. C. B. WOOD.

DR. C. B. WOOD has resigned as a member of the Board of Health. For months past Dr. Wood has been endeavoring to get out of the position of president of the Board. He was willing to remain a member, but desired to be relieved from the duties of presiding over the deliberations of the Board and doing the other work which the position involved, but as his resignation was not accepted by the Board, he has performed continued in the position for the past four months.

But yesterday Dr. Wood handed in his resignation as a member of the Board to Governor Dole and now he will be irrevocably out of the Board. The resignation takes effect in thirty days. The resignation was read in the Governor's council yesterday morning but no action was taken toward filling the vacancy.

It is that the men of the hydrographic survey vessel, the Mowe, sent out by the German Government to make coast soundings in her Pacific possession, were always exposed to malaria and in 11 or 12 days after landing on some island shore were laid low with the disease. Dr. Koch during the time he was aboard the vessel treated the men by his scientific process and thereafter there was less and less malaria until all the men were immune. This treatment came under Dr. Pfleger's personal observation, and he attests to the accuracy with which Dr. Koch's treatment made the men impervious to the attacks of the parasite.

AS TO MOSQUITO NETS.

Mosquito nets form a part of the famous German scientist's investigations. As the Anopheles bites and carries on its deadly work in the night time, it behooves those who in tropical climates must use nets, to tuck them in tightly so as to allow no mosquito to enter. Nets which lie upon the floor usually show small openings. The mosquito finds a way to come from beneath a bed and inside the net, where he deposits the parasite in the body of the sleeper.

Dr. Pfleger has given the results of Dr. Koch's important discoveries to the public for the first time. In Australia there was a statement of Dr. Koch's investigations on board the Mowe, which Dr. Pfleger says is not an accurate account and leads the readers to believe that the discovery was made aboard the vessel. This was not so.

IT WAS IN NEW GUINEA.

It was in the malaria-laden settlements

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